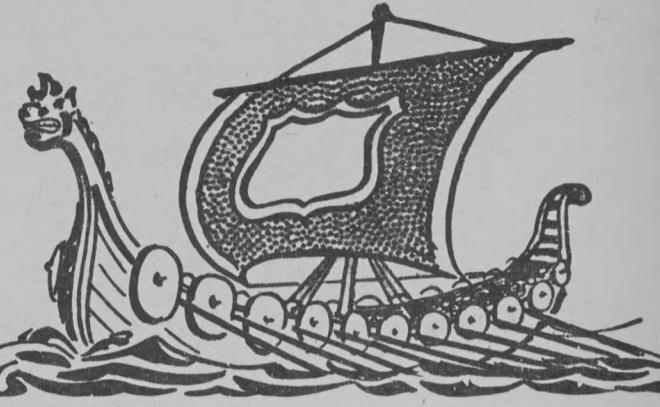


SORENSEN, S.  
8909 - 77 AVE.,  
EDMONTON, ALTA.

# Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 8 NO. 8

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TEN PAGES

AUGUST 1968

## KATHY PETRALA SCANDINAVIAN QUEEN Swedes Score at Picnic

A crowd estimated at 400 enjoyed an afternoon of sport, entertainment and fellowship at Vasa Park, July 14, the annual Scandinavian Day.

The highlight and exciting moment of the day was the crowning of the Scandinavian Centre Queen for 1968-69. The winning candidate was lovely, blonde Miss Kathy Petrala, who represented the Finnish Society. Kathy was born in Finland but moved to Canada at age 3 years. She was crowned by last year's queen Miss Rita Salomaa. The runners-up were Miss Sonja McBride, Sons of Norway, Miss Rita Pearson, Vasa Lodge and Miss Kristen Jacobsen, Dania. Gifts and trophies were presented to the girls.

The master of ceremonies was Harvey Haugen who always does an admirable job. He introduced the entertainers and interviewed the queen candidates, as well as introducing Peter Johnson, president of Vasa Lodge, who welcomed everyone to Vasa Park. Mr. Paul Karvonen, president of the Scandinavian Centre, greeted all present and thanked the members of Vasa Lodge for inviting us to use their park.

Five fast ball teams were entered in the tournament, representing the five ethnic groups. In the final game the Swedish team beat the Finnish fellows and won the trophy.

The tug-of-war drew a large, enthusiastic crowd who cheered loudly for their favorites. Four teams of 9 men contested the trophy and in the final pull the Swedes defeated the Finns.

As usual the Horseshoe Tournament was won by men from the country, Mr. Halwa and Mr. Zarowny, who defeated last year's champs Karvonen-Laukkonen from Hollow Lake.

A large number of youngsters participated in the races and everyone was rewarded with a chocolate bar, the winners also receiving ribbons.

The evening came to a successful close with a dance in the club house.

### Pioneer of North, Mrs.

### Gislason Dies

A sorrowful break in family ties came to the Gislason home on July 8th, when their mother, Margaret, passed away, at the age of 80 years. She is survived by her loving husband Gisli, five sons, Jake, Gisli and O. V. all of Athabasca, Buster of Edmonton, and Frank of Fort McMurray, seven daughters, Mrs. Carrie Woods, Mrs. Don (Margaret) Cameron, Mrs. A. (Edith) Lawrence Mrs. E. (Lil) Leger, Mrs. A. (Pat) Lane all of Edmonton, and Mrs. S. (Helen) Kaplan of Athabasca, Mrs. R. B. (Rose) Gablehouse of Vegreville; thirty grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and two brothers, Stanley Crawford of Calling Lake, Ingram Crawford of Malmo Beach, and a sister, Mrs. H. Anna Bentley of Seattle, Wash.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Fr. R. A. Sayer at St. David's Anglican Church. During the service, Mrs. Thora Orr read the Lord's Prayer in Icelandic, and Mrs. Viola Wallbank sang an appropriate solo in Icelandic.

Interment took place in the Evergreen Memorial Gardens.

The late Mrs. Gislason was a daughter of one of Canada's early pioneers in the west, her father having been with the R.C.M.P. in Winnipeg, and during the Riel uprising, in the strategic post at Battleford, as well as other western postings. Her father-in-law was the Rev. Oddur Gislason, well-known churchman of pioneer days among the Icelandic settlements. She was a member of the Bonnie Doon Friendship Club, and an honorary life member of Nordurljos Chapter. The wide circle of friends of the family offer sympathy in the loss of a beloved mother.

Some of the advantages of the hulls, according to the makers, are:

1. Unlike wooden hulls, caulking is unnecessary twice yearly, and upkeep costs generally are very low.
2. It is not necessary to reinforce with copper.
3. Fibre-glass is resistant to both new and thick ice.
4. The great stability and capacity of the hull make it suitable as a pilot boat, bunkering boat, tug and pleasure yacht.
5. The production time for the boat is much shorter than it would be for a similar wooden boat.

### PART TIME SECRETARY WANTED FOR CENTRE

At the June board meeting it was decided that a part time secretary be hired to assist with the Scandinavian Centre business operations. The hours will be from 9 A.M. to



Blonde, blue-eyed Kathy Petrala, representing the Finnish Society, was crowned queen of the Scandinavian Centre on July 14th at the annual picnic. Kathy, is 20 years old, 5 feet 4 inches in height and in her second year in physiotherapy at the University Hospital. She is the daughter of Mrs. T. Petrala 10859 - 99 Street. Also pictured above is Miss Sonja McBride for Sons of Norway.

### Danish Break-Through For Fishermen

The hulls of 20-ton boats are now in serial production at the Royal System Yacht Yard, and are made in fibreglass reinforced polyester for use as North Sea Cutter type ships.

The Royal System Yacht Yard can produce about 20 hulls yearly, and expects to sell them as fishing vessels but also as pilot boats, tugs, bunkering vessels and pleasure boats.

Some of the advantages of the hulls, according to the makers, are:

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2. It is not necessary to reinforce with copper.
3. Fibre-glass is resistant to both new and thick ice.
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5. The production time for the boat is much shorter than it would be for a similar wooden boat.

### ROYAL WORDS

Dear Fellow Scandinavians,  
I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how thrilled I am to be the Scandinavian Centre Queen. I was so overcome on Sunday I neglected to thank you and tell you how happy I am.

My thanks to everyone, especially Mr. and Mrs. Paul Karvonen and all the Finnish people who selected me to represent the Finnish Society; the judges and Mr. Harvey Haugen who helped put the contestants at ease, and to Vasa Park for letting us use their lovely park.

May I extend my best wishes to the other girls in the contest.

Next summer, when University is finished, I intend to use my prize from P.W.A. for a flight to Finland.

In the coming year I'll do my best to be worthy of the honor bestowed on me.

Your sincerely,  
Kathy Petrala.

### THANK YOU, VASA LODGE

On behalf of the board of directors of the Scandinavian Centre, I wish to thank the members of Vasa Lodge for letting us use their park and its facilities for a most enjoyable sports day and picnic on July 14.

Sincerely,  
Esko Salo,  
Chairman,  
Scandinavian Day.

### ELEVENTH FISHING NATION

According to the report on fisheries in the year 1966 by FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations), Iceland then held 11th place among the major fishing nations of the world.

The total Icelandic catch that year amounted to over 1.2 million tons. Official reports indicate that Icelandic fishermen seldom total more than 6000, and that number only for a small part of the year, and therefore during 1966 each man landed an average of about 200 tons — which must surely be unequalled anywhere in the world.

### Viking Girls - Hoist Sails

Norwegian boys are becoming reluctant to go to sea, so the merchant fleet is recruiting girls not only as cooks and stewardesses, but also as deckhands.

Olaug Braa, 22, joined the 8,500-ton tanker Astrid at Rotterdam. The tanker operates between the Persian Gulf and Europe.

There have been women skippers of Norwegian coastal vessels and fishing boats, but Olaug is perhaps the first girl to sign on as deckhand.

Cap. Sverre Aamodt, of the Onstad shipping line which owns the Astrid, said there is no reason why girls cannot handle the work aboard modern push-button ships.

## SPLINTERS from the BOARD

We have a story in this issue from Mrs. E. Mellemstrand on the pioneers of the Amisk area. Our organization is dedicated to maintaining the Scandinavian culture and incorporating what is good into our Canadian culture. We also want to have our Scandinavian pioneers in Western Canada recognized and what could be more fitting than to have an article, such as this, in each issue. We have much to be thankful for and when we think of the hardships the immigrants endured in those bygone days when the country was first settled, our praise seems a little inadequate. So, hats off to the pioneers and if you can write a similar story for your district, send it to the editor.

### 1969 FLIGHTS

Our flights to Scandinavia are getting better all the time. Next year, departures will be as follows:

June 7, - Oslo 42 days  
July 1, - Copenhagen 43 days  
July 24, - Stockholm 30 days.

Start planning your 1969 holiday now.

### SECRETARY WANTED

The directors have decided that the Centre needs a part time secretary. If you know of someone who would like to work four hours a day at an interesting job; handling our correspondence and financial records and assisting the manager with bookings, please call Paul Karvonen at 455-5570. See the advertisement on the back page.

### ADDRESSES WANTED

We do not have an address for the following shareholders. If you can supply same, please write Scandinavian Centre News, 6012-101A Avenue or call 466-1570.

Belsheim, Forstein	Nielsen, Niels Chr.
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La Delle, Mrs. Aune	Wikstrom, Mervin
Lyall, Mrs. E. S.	Willmore, Dorothy
Lyseng, Larry	With, Bent

### ANNUAL SCANDINAVIAN DAY

Our 15th annual picnic, held at Vasa Park this year, was an outstanding success. There was a good turnout and more children than ever before participated in the races. See the front page for winners of the various events.

## ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

Birthday greetings to our honorary life member, with wishes for birthday joys as she marks yet another milestone; - to Mrs. Sadie F. Lee, of Qualicum Beach, Vancouver Island, on August 25th.

We are happy to report that Mrs. Barney T. Stephanson has returned home after major surgery in the University Hospital. The Stephanson's leave early in September for Ghana - West Africa.

The Canadian Society of Laboratory Technologists thirty-second annual National Convention was held at the Chateau Lacombe when about six hundred delegates were present. Miss Shirley Thorsteinson participated in the program, being in charge of a seminar on Audio-Visual teaching aids. She appeared briefly in a television review of the proceedings. She also gave a talk on a topic in Bacteriology.

Sorrow visited the Fishburne homes when the wife of Mr. Frederick J. Fishburne of 10034 - 88 Avenue passed away, at the age of 77 years. Besides her husband she is survived by three sons, Lawrence of Edmonton, Morgan, of Peace River, and Cyril, of Vancouver, twelve grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Funeral services were held in Holy Trinity Church, with Canon T. L. Leadbeater officiating, and interment in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery. The circle of friends of the family offer again sincere sympathy.

On July 13th, Mrs. Begga Palsson, and granddaughter, Gail Mitchell motored to Outlook, Sask., to attend the marriage of another granddaughter, Miss Darlene Mol, daughter of Mrs. Norma Mol, of Vancouver. Prior to her departure on the charter flight to Iceland, Mrs. Pauline Mitchell and family enjoyed a re-union with their daughter, Thora, Mrs. Oscar Vaughn, of Vacaville, California, where she is a teacher on the air-force base, and her husband is a representative for the Flying Tigers Airlines.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Halldorson took a few days off for a well-deserved holiday by motoring to Saskatoon, Wilkie and other points, visiting family and friends of former days. They report weather and crop conditions were favorable.

Mrs. Pearl Valgardson and Arlene have departed for the area near Whitehorse where Earl is engaged in bridge building. They expect to return in time for school opening.

As has been the custom for several years in the past, three car-loads of Nordurljos chapter journeyed to Markerville to join the Good Neighbor Club in the annual Cemetery Clean-up at Tindastol Cemetery. As before the consensus of opinion was that the spirit of co-operation and mutual endeavor engenders happy associations, and good will. Each year sees a great improvement in the over-all picture. The concern shown for the burial place of the hardy pioneers who settled the district by their descendants and their friends is evident in this yearly task, and serves in turn to show honor and respect for the memory. At appropriate times food is served at the lovely home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johannson, where many a chuckle is heard over the clatter of cups, and lunch. Mr. Joe Johannson and his committee are to be congratulated for these successful outings.

Mrs. Joe Johannson is showing good improvement in her health, although still under strict orders of the doctor. We express get-well wishes for a steady, continuous and speedy climb to restored health again.

Born, on June 28th, to Mr. and Mrs. Haukh Melax, their third son, Stanley Carl. We offer greetings and a happy future to this new little Icelandic Canadian, and his family.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Allan MacNaughton are pleased to announce the engagement of their only daughter, Shirley Christina Isabel to Mr. David Edward Guthrie, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John W. Guthrie.

Holiday minded travellers go east and west for a summer recess away from usual routines. Misses Leoni and Kathy Oddson took the train for Winnipeg to visit relatives. They hope to be at the seventy-ninth annual Icelandic celebration at Gimli. Also planning to attend is Mr. Mike Johnson, who left on a circle tour, taking him to his childhood home in Tantallon, Sask., to Saskatoon, to be present at the golden wedding of his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. S. Kolbeinson, to Wilkie, and Gimli before returning home. President and Mrs. Al Arnason motored to Prince Albert to be the guests of his brother, Eddie and family and to visit other relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Gus Roland made a week-end trip to Saskatoon

to attend the wedding of a niece.

Mrs. Hawthorne, Sr., mother of Mr. Geo. Hawthorne of the C.N. executive, in the C.N. Tower, is a patient in the Good Samaritan Nursing Home at 10530 - 56 Avenue. She would welcome any visitors, and would especially appreciate any who would converse with her in Icelandic.

Mrs. Anna Clark, of Winnipeg was in Edmonton, to attend the funeral of her aunt, Mrs. G. O. Gislason, and was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Don Cameron. She extended her stay in order to visit the many members of the family in Alberta.

Miss Donna Cameron, Miss Lorean Gablehouse of Vegreville, and Miss Lois Gislason of Deep Creek, journeyed west to the United Church Camp at Surprise Lake, near Edson, for a summer vacation. The camp activities include water sports, trail and camp fun, all conducted by church members, and provides wholesome vacation joys.

The executive of Nordurljos Chapter met at the Sumarlidason home to discuss plans for the forthcoming visit of the National League president, Mr. Sigurjon Sigurgeirson and his wife of Reykjavik, Iceland. Arriving in Edmonton on Tuesday, Aug. 13th, they will be entertained by members of the club, and plans tentatively agreed upon suggest a full program of entertainment. The distinguished visitors have expressed a desire to see as much of our fair province as is possible in so short a visit, and to meet as many western compatriots who feel so inclined. One of the main items on the agenda is a Smorgasbord and Social in the beautiful Scandinavian Centre, on Wednesday, Aug. 14th, when all are urged to join in to ensure a gala event. The visitors will leave for Markerville early Thursday morning, and from there to Banff, Kamloops, and Vancouver.

Another of Alberta's pioneers has passed away, in the death of Mrs. August Asmundson, of Red Deer, mother of Annie, Mrs. Goodacre. Burial took place on Friday, July 19th from the Eventide home in Red Deer. The members of Nordurljos Chapter remember the kindness of the family in loaning the beautiful and authentic Icelandic costume for many occasions which added greatly to each event. We offer sincere sympathy to her family.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Thorvaldson, Gary, Cindy and Carla spent the first week of July sunning and swimming at the lake in Kelowna, then travelled to Vancouver where they were guests of Gunnar's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. W. Tonn. One of their most interesting side trips was the ferry boat trip to Victoria and a visit to magnificent Butchart Gardens. Gunnar Thorvaldson and son, Gary, also went to Winnipeg by train for a few days to visit Gunnar's mother, Mrs. H. Thorvaldson and his sister, Rose, who was vacationing in Winnipeg from California.

A DATE TO REMEMBER - the annual corn roast to be held early in September. Time, place and program will be announced later, but in the meantime, keep this jolly gathering in mind and plan on attending!

## Scandinavian Centre News

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If undelivered, return to:

6012 - 101A Avenue

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### Finnish Society:

**Mrs. Anne Sahuri**  
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## FINNISH SOCIETY



Congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Matti Lehtiniemi, who were married on June 21st at Augustana Lutheran Church. The reception was held at the Scandinavian Centre. The young couple will reside in Edmonton.

The annual "Juhannuskokko" was held at Lac La Nove on June 22nd and all who attended had great fun. The biggest fish was caught by Vilho Ristola and Eino Karvonen was the winner of horse shoe tournament. The traditional kalasoppa was enjoyed twice and the weather was pleasant through the picnic.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Salomaa and children motored to the west coast during their holidays to visit relatives and friends in Vancouver.

Congratulations to Miss Kathy Petrala who won the Queen contest at the annual Scandinavian Centre picnic held at Vasa Park.

Happy Holiday wishes to all.

## Lifeseeing in SCANDINAVIA

Your typical tourist is the conscientious type. He devours guide books, plods through musty churches and shoots anything that moves him with the hair-trigger Pentax slung around his neck. And he comes home with a slight, nagging doubt; namely, did he see the real Slobbovia?

Now the Scandinavians, those tireless innovators, have devised a new kind of tourism that assures each participant a wide-eyed look at the real Scandinavia. The name of the game is "lifeseeing," the rules are flexible and the ante is surprisingly low. For about \$700 (including round trip fare from Montreal to Helsinki by Scandinavian Airlines) a Canadian can now spend two weeks in Oslo (or Bergen) Stockholm, Helsinki and Copenhagen, seeing life on the inside in a way that normally would require special connections. The program is inexpensive because it's off-season—Oct. 1 to May 1—and effective because this same period is the on-season for everything else in four countries that slow down appreciably when the summer sun shines.

All it takes is stamina. Lifeseers on a swing through Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark are met at each airport by a qualified guide, usually a bright young graduate student handpicked for the occasion by local tour operators under the supervision of national travel associations and SAS. Each tour is tailor-made in advance to suit special interests. Details of the three- or four-day stopovers are worked out on the way to the hotel. (Cost is based on two people traveling together, but single rooms are available at a slightly higher rate per person.)

Those jaded tourists who would rather go to hell through their own devices than to heaven on a guided tour may find the supervision a little oppressive, but in fact the guides act more like informed friends than spelers. The pace is frenetic: typically, a half-day of lifeseeing, a half-day of conventional sightseeing or shopping, then half-the-night (depending on one's constitution) liaising with the natives at nightclubs.

In practice, lifeseeing seems to provide a key to an enormous key club that is Scandinavia. Doors fly open, officialdom smiles, bureaucracy crumbles and the curious tourist—probably for the first time in his life—finds himself in the happy position of being able to ask anybody anything and get a straight answer. A group of 10 U.S. and Canadian journalists who went over recently had expressed an interest in Swedish sex education and promptly found themselves facing the chief physician of the national board of education in Stockholm. Their queries on the administration

of wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen were answered by the lord mayor himself, over breakfast off gold plates at city hall while U.S. and Canadian flags fluttered in their honor. The power of the press? Not at all. This sort of reception is commonplace, according to letters received by SAS from some of the several hundred Americans (scarcely a dozen Canadians, so far) who have made the trip since the fall of 1966.

It is always a fine thing when a national stereotype is shattered. Lifeseers typically express surprise that Scandinavian winters are not particularly rigorous (in Copenhagen everybody hopes, usually in vain, for a white Christmas, and even Helsinki is warmer than Toronto in January). Visitors also discover that Scandinavians, including the Swedes, are buoyant and hospitable rather than dour and officious. The Danes may be the world's most fun-loving people after 5 a.m. In Copenhagen the beer and snaps flow 24 hours a day and seem to be a viable substitute for sleep. The Finns, too, are notable, but quite different, drinkers—along Ontario-compulsive lines. In Helsinki the journalists got involved in esoteric conversations with expansive drunks. All over Scandinavia the food is varied (smoked reindeer in Finland, fantastically fanciful sandwiches in Denmark) and superb; the girls exciting and approachable; the shopping expensive and worth it. Virtually everyone speaks English.

Lifeseeing was conceived by Aksel Dessau, director of the Danish National Travel Office in New York, and John Harisson, an assistant manager at New York's SAS office. "Everybody was going over in the summer," says Harisson. "We wanted to stimulate people to go and see Scandinavia-at-work." The program, as it evolved, consists of 20 different topics including Danish farming and the co-operative movement (visits to a co-op centre and a typical farm), architecture and city planning (an excursion to Tapiola, near Helsinki, the finest planned community in Europe) and design (visits to the National School of Arts Crafts and Design, the Swedish Design Centre, a co-op ceramics factory and a furniture centre). The program stresses Scandinavian advances in design, welfare and industry, but happily does not lack the personal touch. Lifeseers are invited to spend evenings with compatible Scandinavian families at home. Thus, having observed the shining accomplishments of the welfare state all day, the visitors may see the other side of the kronor at night. One PR man in Helsinki said he was planning to move to Montreal. When they take you lifeseeing in Scandinavia, they tell it like it is.

## ASF AND SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES CO-SPONSORS OF SCANDINAVIAN THEATRE

The Scandinavian Theatre Company, located in Stockholm, is currently presenting Thornton Wilder's comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth" on a tour of Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Finland. Performed in English by an integrated cast from USA, the play opened at Stockholm's Stadsteatern last month. It was next destined for runs at Malmö (Sweden), Aarhus and Copenhagen (Denmark), Oslo (Norway), and Helsinki (Finland). This ambitious experiment in cultural communication is undertaken as a private venture, co-sponsored by The American-Scandinavian Foundation—ASF—and Scandinavian Airlines. ASF underwrote the pre-production costs of \$15,000, which the Company is expected to reimburse from box office receipts.

Formerly the English Theatre Company of Norway, the Scandinavian Theatre Company has so far presented nine productions since it was established in 1964. By the

end of June, it will have appeared in all of the four continental Nordic countries. The Company's objectives are both educational and cultural. It affords an opportunity for Scandinavians to enjoy the best of the theatre arts from the English-speaking world. Some productions are for youths studying English in school.

In 1966-67, the Company's "Macbeth" production was performed for some 45,000 teenage students in Denmark and Norway. Last fall, "The Taming of the Shrew" was seen by some 50,000 teenagers in Sweden. The Swedish Government subsidized 22 shows in the schools of Stockholm, as well as a 2-month tour of schools in southern Sweden.

A unique aspect of the Scandinavian Theatre Company is the way it seeks to make every performance an educational experience. Weeks before a play is scheduled for presentation, every school at which the Company will appear re-

ceives a tape recording of the play. Moreover, every student at the school gets a script, and every teacher involved receives a kit to assist in the presentation of material designed to instruct as well as to entertain. By the time the Company arrives, students have studied the script both for the language-teaching aspect and for the literary and dramatic contents.

### CO-FOUNDER'S HOPES

Co-founder and present board chairman Richard Svare, of Seattle, Wash., hopes that, with financial assistance from USA, England and Scandinavia, it will be possible for a professional English-language acting company core to remain in residence in Scandinavia, presenting American and British plays, with guest actors and actresses from the dramatist's native land. Thus, Sir John Gielgud and Dame Peggy Ashcroft have already appeared with the Scandinavian Theatre Company.

## NORWAY TO BUILD EMBASSY IN PEKING

Parliament has approved an agreement between Norway and the People's Republic of China on erection of a Norwegian Embassy building in Peking.

Pat: "What's the best way to teach a girl to swim?"

Mike: "First you put one hand around her waist, then you take the other hand—

Pat: "It's my sister."

Mike: "Oh. Just push her off the dock."

### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME POSITION?

From 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

at THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE

- 1 To Assist the Manager With Bookings & Management of Centre
- 2 To Keep All The Financial Records of the Centre
- 3 To Do All Correspondence and Secretary Service of the Centre

### SALARY TO BE NEGOTIATED

Contact Paul Karvonen, 12204 Dovercourt Crescent, Phone 455-5570

## SUPPORT YOUR ADVERTISERS

An excited and angry woman was dashing around through the park and zoo demanding to speak to the keeper at the zoo.

"The monkeys are gambling at cards," she said. "You must break up the game."

"It won't do them any harm," said the keeper. "They are only playing for peanuts."

The prisoner told the judge he carried off the 300-pound safe "in a moment of weakness."

"What do the three balls in front of a pawnshop mean?"

"Two to one you don't get it back!"

"Why are men's eyes like the sparrows?"

"Because they flit from limb to limb."

"I wonder why old man Smith puts all his savings under his pillow every night?"

"Reckon he wants people to know he has money enough to retire on."

"Can you stand on your head?"

"Nope. It's too high."

\*\*\*

"My doctor told me how I could live to be 150 years old, he said. I must not chew, smoke, drink or play cards. Stay in nights, abstain from all sweets and starches. He said: you may not live to be a 150, but it will seem like it."

\*\*\*

"I want to do something big and something clean."

"Then wash an elephant."



# THE VIKINGS OF AMISK

Pioneering stories told to and written by  
ESTHER MELLEMSTRAND

"IF ALL THE RESOURCEFULNESS AND INGENUITY OF OUR PIONEERS COULD HAVE BEEN MOBILIZED AT ONE TIME, WE WOULD HAVE A "MASTER RACE" TODAY!"

—Thus quotes an unknown author.

I am indebted to the pioneer Viking sons of Amisk for the following stories. Had it not been for the help and co-operation of these early settlers when they were interviewed, these stories could not have been written. I'm sure future generations will treasure these MEMOIRS!

Amisk is the Cree Indian name for Beaver, and since the settlers found it easy to pronounce, the name stuck. Beavers are still very active in the districts surrounding the town. The first school to be built by the settlers, was located in a valley surrounding Amisk, and named "DALEN" for that word means valley in Swedish.

## BIOGRAPHY OF THE WALLSTEN CLAN

I am a daughter of George Wallsten; and the following stories of the pioneering Wallsten Clan from Salstad, Sweden, are stories that we, the children have heard repeatedly, but I'm anxious that OUR descendants shall have a record of our illustrious forefathers.

My first tribute is to the courage displayed by the parents of these immigrants. Some of these sea-faring adventurous children were only in their teens. It must have been an ordeal for the fathers and mothers to wave farewell to their young sons and daughters as they set out to make a new life on the unsettled land in Canada. This is indeed, evidence of courage, hope and morale, all rolled into one.

Our paternal grandparents Johan and Johanna Wallsten saw seven of their ten children leave their birthplace: Oscar and Sophie (Mrs. Anderson) in 1881, August 1883, George (my father) 1891, Carl and Victor 1901, and Hulda (Mrs. Tamney) in 1905. Togetherness, must have been taught as being of prime importance in this large family in Sweden, for five of these wandering seven, eventually settled in the AMISK district in Alberta.

When Uncle Gust landed in Winnipeg in 1883, he made the trip from there to Calgary, by wagon train. On reaching the area which is now Red Deer, their little wagon was surrounded by Indians. Fortunately, one of the passengers was the late Senator Burns who was aware of an Indian's lust for bartering. Mr. Burns alertly and promptly removed my Uncle's fine silk top-hat. This was meant to indicate friendliness, and the willingness for barter. The Indian Chief in return, promptly removed HIS head-gear. Whether or not a trade was made at this point, remains among the unknown. My Uncle preferred to keep the outcome a secret! We do know however, that the party moved on to Calgary in comparative safety. The moral of the story is, that although a story teller may have a 100 ways of telling things, the wisest one is to be evasive at times — that's my uncle!

In Calgary, Gust parted company with his good friend the Senator, and journeyed on to Washington to visit his sister Sophie. In 1909, after working for some time in every field of endeavor, the call of the land struck him again. In Wetaski-

win, he filed for a homestead, the location of which is now one mile north of HUGHENDEN. With no railroad beyond Hardisty, he made an effort to walk to his homestead. My Uncle was unaware of the fact that the elements were the settlers' worst enemies. He was not dressed for the -40 degree weather in January. So, after battling the deep snow and cold for only a few miles, he was forced to turn back.

This time, he did exchange his fine clothes for warmer gear, and set out on foot once again. — a very tired man when he reached his homestead. His wife Emma and young daughter Nan soon followed to help him carve out a home in the vast wilderness.

Uncle Gust was an ardent fisherman. He would collect his brothers and the four anglers would take long trips in pursuing the sport. Aunt Emma was the homebody. She had the ingenious ability to make beautiful flowers flourish, and since she was able to speak the English language as well as Swedish, she was indeed, a big help to the new neighbors from the Scandinavian countries.

In 1906, George along with his brothers Carl and Victor, set out from Harvey, North Dakota to see if there was a fortune awaiting them in Canada. They wanted to settle where their brother Gust had been.

In stopping long enough in Winnipeg to survey the rich soil of the Red River Valley, George was held up and robbed of his entire holdings — \$5.00. He could speak a little English, but didn't attempt to explain his own dire need of cash. He felt the gun in his ribs, and this he decided, had a language all its own! This episode, made him all the more determined that the three men should head for Alberta, where, their brother Gust said, they would be given a friendly, warm welcome.

In Red Deer, filing for land in the AMISK district on the same day were: the Solbak brothers, John Lingdren and his four stalwart sons, Axel Johnson, Andrew Bogg, Oscar Carlson, Albin Erickson, Jens Jensen and Andrew Lindquist, (the poet and spokesman for the group). From Daysland, this entire delegation drove with horses to locate on their free land.



DAN TAMNEY'S HOMESTEAD SHACK IN 1902

The Wallsten brothers, all chose land on Section 14-twp 41-r-8. The erection of log and sod houses on each quarter was immediately started so that there would be shelter for their families when they chose to arrive. All the new settlers were fortunate in finding employment on the construction of the coming railroad. Wages were from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day. Until this road reached AMISK in August of 1909, the pioneers walked to HARDISTY for provisions; carrying as high as 50 pounds in a sack on their backs. Often the goods were shared with their neighbors, for some of these were unable to leave their families.

The first women of the clan to arrive were Carl's wife Hulda, and

the four brothers' sister Hulda. She, the sister, had arrived from Sweden, just a few months before. Carl's wife was awaiting her first child John. He was the first baby born among the settlers. The sister, Hulda, found work in the Hardisty Cecil Hotel.

Expectant mothers had many harrowing experiences. In the delivery room of the homestead shacks, newspapers were considered the most sanitary for use in place of rubber sheeting, for printer's ink has a sterilizing content. Stacks of these that had been carefully saved for the event, were wrapped in clean sheets made from flour sacks. Either vinegar or boiling water sterilized the scissors for severing the cord, and pure, unsalted lard took the place of baby or olive oil. These midwives would stay a full ten days, tending the mother, caring for the baby, doing the daily wash as well as preparing the meals for the rest of the family as an extra chore. Baked potatoes for vitamin "C", and chicken broth with chopped up meat scraped off the bones, was the mother's main diet. When these nurses could be paid, the fee was very small. In difficult births, it was a trying time for both mother and nurse.

My mother was one of these pioneering "Florence Nightingale's" of the district. She was also often called to assist a farmer's cow or mare when there was a difficult delivery. In cases such as these, very often, she had to resort to the use of a block and tackle. If a cow lost her cud her remedy was simple. One cup of rising yeast and 2 tablespoons chimney soot!

Mrs. Amund Johnson did much to ease the load for mother in the Dalen district; and some years later, Mrs. Amanda Bakland established a record when she recorded her 200th baby delivery. There was also a happy celebration in Amisk when Axel Johnson brought home his bride, the former Ebba Lundquist — a registered nurse from Chicago. Her black medicine bag soon became a familiar and welcome sight in all emergencies.

Every year from 1906, prairie fires were a terrible threat to property and livelihood. Settlers would have nightmares about awakening to

be picked up with a sharpened wooden prong, so that they could be tested carefully for leakage. How well I remember how severely I was punished if I picked one that was too "fresh".

George (Dad) found that spending the winters with his family in North Dakota, entailed too much expense in travelling, so in the summer of 1909, Dad took Mom, his three small daughters, Anna, Tilda and Alma and all their household belongings to Amisk. My arrival was due any time, and I'm sure Mom was very thankful that I waited just long enough to be the first girl born in the AMISK district. The only disappointing factor, was that I was the 6th consecutive girl born to the family — two sisters died in infancy in North Dakota. Moving to AMISK must have created a bit of magic however, for the next child was a BOY! Nothing else for a name would do for this seven wonder than GUSTAVE ADOLPH, after King Gustavus Adolphus V of Sweden! The poor boy grew up with an intense dislike for this ostentatious title, so after a great deal of serious thought, he named himself "PETE!" In rapid succession came five more girls: Paulina, Amanda, Ellen, Ruth and Irene.

We children were also delegated

held the driving lines while they shared the front seats with their wives, each holding a baby in her lap. At their feet sat the two next in line. The remaining, filled the back seats until all noses were counted and wiped — usually a count of 14. Fourteen coins had to be tied to the corner of a handkerchief, and twice as many shoe laces needed attention. We girls were always dressed in white. Black shoes and stockings however — there was no other shade in those days. During the week we were barefoot.

Going to church was a solemn occasion, and when this procession entered the only discipline necessary was for the mothers to say in Swedish, "Du maa hveta hut! Her kommer presten!" (you must be good! Here comes the minister). When Pastor Olav Lindgren or Rev. Otto Eklund made their entrance, they would beam at the two well filled pews of black and white, and remark, "my, my, what well-behaved little children!" Little did they realize that THEY were the instruments for our good behaviour. These are the two men who taught us to read and write the Swedish language.

FIRST ENGLISH SPEAKING CONFIRMATION CLASS

In 1911 Carl's wife Hulda died in childbirth. Mom kept the two motherless boys, John and Victor, until Christmas 1912. During the festive season, it is a Swedish tradition to serve a rice pudding with an almond hidden somewhere among the raisins. The superstition being: If a single man fished out the almond (mandel i groten), he would soon have a wife. This also, must have created a bit of magic. It wasn't long after that, that Uncle Carl married a widow with a daughter, Ethel, and a son Lawrence. This new union was blessed with four more "Wallsten" girls: Signe, Adelia, Lillie and Hildegard — just one son August. More population was badly needed in this new settlement. Therefore, biologically, my Dad and Uncle Carl held very high and revered positions in the district.

The two Wallsten mothers were constantly sewing — their machines were never closed. Each year, there could be a new baby in one household or the other. If our Aunt met us at the door when we came home from school, our immediate guess would be that we had another sister. I can still see the lines of diapers made from flour sacks, washed snowy white with home-made soap and snow water. Sometimes though, a stubborn "Robin Hood" would persist in being advertised when the baby was up-ended for a burp!

When the two brothers hitched up their teams of Chestnut Belgians to their shiny black democrats, for church on Sunday mornings, the men looked equally pompous — stiff corn colored straw hats, and celluloid collars. Erectly and sternly they

helped with the chores in the house. There would be tubs full of dishes to wash, as well as all the milking utensils. Not forgetting the separator with all its parts. My father would make a game of turning the huge six gallon butter drum — an equal amount of revolutions for each child. What a welcome sound it would be to hear the swish of the buttermilk. We were taught to drink and like buttermilk for reasons of health. Along with this, we were given one teaspoon of sulphur and molasses every morning. We were sick only when there was an epidemic of children's diseases. Then it was a common sight to see a quart sized bottle of Sweet Spirits of Nitre on the kitchen table — a sure cure for the sniffles!

The older girls took turns in setting the table for meals — a setting of 12, being the smallest count. The little ones who were not tall enough to sit on chairs, each had a little wooden prune box on which to stand — this way they could reach their places. High chairs were unknown, so it was a happy event for these small tots when they were measured for size to see if they could be promoted to a chair. It was my Aunt's chore to prepare 20 gallons of "lutefisk" every winter. This would disappear during the many Christmas activities. As high as 24 loaves of bread were baked in a week in each household. Swedish Rye Crisp was my Aunt's specialty, while my mother's was Cinnamon Tea Ring. 400 quarts of wild berries were picked and canned every year — 'tailing' gooseberries how we hated that chore!

Most Scandinavian women are expert needle workers, so the Wallsten wives would find relaxation by doing this work for church bazaars. I don't know when my mother slept, for it seemed as if she could whip up a pair of hand-knit mitts or socks over night. Cushions and pillows were made from stripped chicken feathers — the quills had been painstakingly removed by hand. Crocheted doilies and bedspreads were also made. These would all be sold under the hammer of an auctioneer at fall bazaars. The money raised, helped to meet the funds necessary to build the first church in Amisk. Other women active in raising funds were: Mrs. Richard Nyberg, Mrs. Albin Erickson, Mrs. Fred Peterson, Mrs. Andrew Pearson, Mrs. Adolph Rehn, Mrs. Wm. Moline, Mrs. Jacob Kjos, Mrs. Oscar Stromquist, Mrs. John Stromquist, Mrs. Magnus Johnson, Mrs. Axel Johnson and the Hager women. Men would walk to the church site carrying their carpenter's tools and lunch pails; work all day, and then walk home again. The Nyberg brothers, Wallsten brothers, Rehn, Stromquist and Johnson brothers as well as the Lindgren men, all did much voluntary work to see the completion of the Swedish church. In this church, Swedish was the language used until 1931. In that year, Miss Edna Johnson conducted the first English speaking Confirmation Class.

All these Viking women faced the same difficulties. Foremost, was that of learning the English language. Many immigrants laughingly recall: "My best English teacher was Eaton's catalogue. It was always so well illustrated!" Fashion highlights of the day could be had for 10¢ from the Fashion Department of the GRAIN GROWERS GUIDE.

There was entertainment for the children as well. It was not unusual to have a gathering of at least 40 young people at our home on Sundays. First there would be sing-songs around the parlor organ, and then as a grand finale, how we loved to get Dad to participate in his famous game of 'HARD TACK!' Dad was endowed with satire and wit — nothing pleased him more than to have a house full of merriment.

The three brothers loved to go fishing with Uncle Gus. As soon as the ice broke on the Battle River in the spring, these stout-hearted Vikings would hitch up their fastest teams and away to the hills for a day or more. A frying pan, a jar of butter, a slab of pork, some loaves of home-made bread, hard boiled eggs, salt, flour and dishes were packed in a box in case their angling luck would be bad. Heavy quilts and matches were also among their provisions. It was no secret that the hills bordering the river, harbored a "well hidden" still. The hospitality of the fishermen's friend who made his livelihood there, was also well known. Therefore, no one was surprised when these pioneering exponents of "Isaac Walton" came home singing "Shall we gather at the River?" In spite of this, the fishing catch was usually good. The family at home welcomed the suckers and jackfish — a change from stewed rabbit and boiled fat pork with dumplings, which was the winter diet.

Teaching the three R's, created a bit of a problem for the settlers in the Dalen district. In the homes, and at recess, the Scandinavian language was spoken. It was difficult for a young teacher to settle disputes, particularly, when she could not understand the dialogue. It seems that the teen-agers of that day were aware of the fact that in 1905, Norway had decided on self-government. They knew that Norway chose to have their own KING that describe the people mentioned

HAAKEN VII, to replace the rule of GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS V of Sweden. The Norwegian descendants here, decided on testing their own strength against the Swedish youngsters. Miss Round, the young teacher, tried to convince the warriors that everything was peaceful in Europe, and that the two kings were chummy pals. For this interference, she was promptly locked into the little house at the back. Then the structure upended on the door to boot! My sister Anna, had the strength of a man, and was able to constitute a truce by bouncing the fighters one by one into neutral corners. Releasing also, their prisoner Miss Round. Notes from irate mothers over their boys' tattered clothing poured in, and the poor frightened girl resigned. Needless to say, the school trustees wisely chose Mr. Kryderman, a six-footer, as her successor. To work off excessive energy, he taught the boys harmless sports, such as hardball and antler. For competitive sports there were the three-legged and sack racing as well as pillow fighting on poles. Following this taming of the wild Vikings, there were many lady teachers. My sister Alma taught there for seven consecutive years. Another problem facing the parents and teachers were the floods following a wet year. In the extremely wet spring of 1916, all the grades and meadows were flooded. A slough had to be crossed twice a day going to and from school. A home-made raft piloted by one of the bigger boys, would often upset. It's a miracle no one was drowned! When the slough dried up, this bottom was covered with lost lunch

in this story. I shall also add my English translation of the verses. Whereas it rhymes well in Swedish, the English doesn't. The reason for this is that the likened words just don't rhyme!

OUR SETTLEMENT  
By Andrew Lindquist, 1907

-1-

Our settlement we love most dearly, although its far up North, For me, there is no other place so dear upon this earth I have my house built, and live without rent, So have we one and all, out in our settlement.

-2-

If you will listen, you shall hear, A little about each one that's near You must excuse me, when I'm not plain, for this I do lament But you shall hear a little about our settlement.

-3-

John Lindgren, a tall and bearded man on section 22 Has horses, cows, and much more, which is handy too, For HIMSELF, he has no wife, but he has one on "rent" Think if we ALL had it so, out in our settlement.

-4-

On this same section, we find Simon, a Norwegian lad When he drives his oxen, they don't dare to be bad; I understand he has a sweetheart; nothing wrong is meant Just take her here, and we'll soon have more in our settlement.

-5-

Now we wander down to section 10; what do we see?



The first Christmas program was in the Scandinavian language, so the teacher was given assistance from Johnny Johnson and his cousin Nels Ingvaldson (an excellent tenor). Besides being musical, they could speak English. These kind hearted young men, also carried treats for the children in a flour bag strapped to their backs, in their long walk from Hardisty — some 20 miles. An orange and some peppermints were a rare treat. A poplar with its branches wrapped in green tissue paper, served as the Christmas tree. The children clasped hands and walking around the tree sang "Her kommer dina smaa" (Here come your little ones). The children singing were: Auna & Tilda Wallsten, Albert and Hiram Lindgren, Henry and Alma Johnson, Hazel Nordine, Lars Noren and Mabel Swelin. Emil Nordin, the pupil most adept at oratory was chosen to recite a poem about the settlers. This poem was composed and written in Swedish by Andrew Lindquist in 1907. The poem had been carefully preserved for several years, and later set to music. Emil was chosen to recite it for the teacher had said: "He can't sing; but can surely talk!" The original poem had 17 verses, but I have chosen only the seven

Axel, Magnus and Nels, Dakota brothers three, Horses? Oh, yes! The barn is full and so content Nice to see such beautiful "teams" in our settlement.

-6-

Do you hear me Nels, you tall man, 6 foot three, Your wife from Dakota you should have with thee. About Magnus? I've heard a little; he, after HIS has sent But I don't believe everything I hear out in our settlement.

-7-

I nearly forgot Axel, a lively lad who likes his jokes His girl he loves as highly as the pipe he smokes Just wait, when HE marries, we're all intent, To go and CHIVAREE, out in our settlement!

VAART SETTLEMENT

Andrew Lindquist, 1907

-1-

Vaart settlement vi elske högt, fast det er langt i Nord, For mig det fins ej ingen plats saa kjer upp paa var jord; Ty her jeg mig en hydda bygt och lever utan "rent" Saa haver vi, var och en, uti vaart

-2-

Nu om ni blott vil lysna til, saa skal jeg sege er Ett litet ord om var och en av dem som lever her; Ni maa ursekte om jeg ej kan sega det saa "plaint" Men nog skal ni faa veta lit ifran vaart settlement.

-3-

John Lindgren, stor och skjeggig man, paa section 22 Har hester, kor, och mycket mer som hendigt komma må For selv han ingen gomma har, så har han en pa "rent" Tenk om vi all hadde så, uti vaart

-4-

Pa samma sektion finna vi Simon, den Norske gut, Ner han med sina oxar driv, sa fâ dei hveta hut, Je kjen att han en festnô har, det er ej illa ment Just ta den hit, sa blir her fler uti vaart settlement.

-5-

Sa vandra vi til sektion ti, vad tror na fâ se? Ja, Axel, Magnus, Uils Johnson, Dakota broder tre; Och hester, jo du? Stallet fullt. Se det var mycket pent Att se så manga vackra "team" uti vaart settlement.

-6-

Men vet du Nils, du lange man, 6 fot och tunnme tre En gomma borde nestan du från Dakota tatt med Om Magnus har jag hört så snart, han efter sin har sent Men inte tror jag allt jag hör uti vaart settlement.

-7-

Jag nerra Axel hadde glömt, som er en livad gyk Sin flicka elskar han så hygt, just som en pipa ryk Men venta du, hon kommer snart, det tror jag fest bestemt Då ska vi skramla, var och en, uti vaart settlement.

business of buying and selling meats. They also owned the first automobile. It was a happy day for Hulda, when they found time to drive to AMISK to visit the brothers, their wives and families.

In 1917, Victor, the remaining bachelor of the Wallsten Clan was married to Amanda Rehn. She came from Sweden to be among her four brothers, Ivar, Adolph, Claus and Franz.

My Aunt feels that the worst tragedy to strike the communities was the 'flu of 1918-1919. The Cecil Hotel was converted into a hospital, and a nurse was brought in from Saskatoon. All citizens who were healthy enough to assist in nursing, were conscripted. To avoid germs, when out in public, it was compulsory to wear masks of white cotton tied over one's mouth and noses. However, there were many multiple deaths — as high as seven died in one family.

Of the whole Wallsten Clan — 65 years later, only Victor and Hulda remain. They still carry on with their everyday chores. Victor does his own farm work; while Hulda still raises her own garden in Edmonton. They also keep tab on ALL of us, their brothers' many descendants. Working in togetherness like this, for over half a century, is what has made this history of our illustrious ancestors possible. So in my closing chapter, I think it is most fitting to quote Bing Crosby:

**THE TEST OF A REAL FRIEND**  
A friend is someone who knows all about you, but loves you just the same!

That's our Aunt Hulda and Uncle Victor — GOD BLESS BOTH OF THEM!

The prim old lady was given the first glass of beer she ever had. After sipping it for a moment she looked up with a puzzled air.

"How odd!" she murmured. "It tastes just like the medicine my husband has been taking for the last 20 years."

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The term 'mass production' should not be overstressed. Denmark is a country of small-scale industries. Their industrial strength lies in the fact that they have a specialized production of high quality in many small factories (or large workshops). The furniture industry is a typical example of this. Of the approximately 400 members of the Danish Furniture Manufacturers Association, only about 15 employ over 50 workers. The annual production value of Danish furniture factories is about 800 million kroner, of which about 320 million is exported. Clearly there is no question of 'industry' on the scale of the major industrial countries, but in Denmark they have learnt that, as a country poor in natural resources, they cannot compete in price, only in quality. For this reason it is the processing industries which shape their industrial image.

The standards of craftsmanship which characterize Danish furniture production are also typical of other Danish applied arts. For example, the leading silversmiths are much more workshops than factories. Craftsmanship still accounts for a very considerable part of the work. The same is true of the large porcelain factories.



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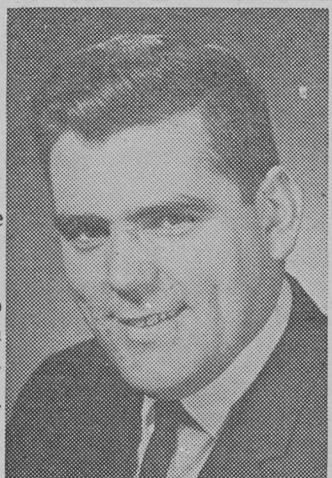
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## VASA LODGE SKANDIA



The regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia was held July 6, in the Club House at Vasa Park. Chairman Peter Johnson presided. District Master Floyd Modin was present.

Members reported under Doctors care were Earl Erickson, Peter Johnson and Alof Lindon. Grace Maxwell and Minnie Nelson were reported as being in the hospital.

The Land Committee reported that the pier has cost the lodge fifty dollars. Lot number four in the second row will go to Ray and Doreen Nyroos.

The Past Chairman's Club held a meeting, June 10, at Don Johnson's cabin at Vasa Park which dealt with recommendations arising from the recent Seminar. They were presented to the Lodge who decided that they were not ready to implement Honorary Membership, nor to enforce compulsory attendance of members to three meetings a year. In an effort to encourage members to attend meetings, it was decided to offer free lunch and coffee after each meeting, effective July 1, and to install a Welcoming Committee. The Inner Guard will also accompany new members who come late to the rostrum to receive the salute.

The Cultural Leader, Helge Erickson, and Linnea Lodge are working on an idea concerning birthdays with a view to improving Lodge attendance.

In order for a member to lease a lot at the Lake, he must have been a member for one year, and be in good standing at the beginning of the second year before application will be accepted.

Two mercury vapor lamps will be rented from Calgary Power. They will be installed to run from dusk to dawn during the months between May and October.

Buford and Faullen Lodges will be offered the use of the Club House to raise funds for their respective Lodges.

Lilly Boyer has volunteered to provide music for the Smorgasbord, October 26, and to arrange the program.

Alma Samuelson is in charge of the Children's Day Program to be held August 11, at Vasa Park. All children belonging to members of Skandia Lodge will be welcomed. Activities will begin at 2:00 p.m., and will include a ball game, entertainment, and a weiner roast. So come early, bring a picnic lunch, and the kids!

The dessert Party held June 9 featured strawberry shortcake, and coffee. The proceeds went to John Jarret in St. Josephs Hospital. John would like to thank you all personally, so do drop in and see him.

The Midsummer Dance held June 22 was a great success thanks to Florence Erickson, and Mr. and Mrs. Forsberk and their son Rodney, who were the hosts. The MLA from Hanna, Mr. Keith French, who was the MC for the evening kept the vast variety of novelty and ordinary dances rolling right along. The music was by the Willow Creek Trio.

A picture of the Vasa Park

grounds, taken at the June 2 picnic, was presented to the lodge by Svea Erickson and Bill and Martha Kay.

District Master Floyd Modin would like to remind all brides who have worn the Bridal Crown to send him a picture of yourself in the Crown so the Scrapbook of Brides can be kept up to date.

The Klondike Dance held after the meeting was very successful. The costumes were really colorful and lovely. After the dance, pancakes and coffee were served by Hansine and Eric Pierre. Thanks to them for putting on such an enjoyable evening.

The next meeting will be held Saturday, August 3, at 7:30 p.m. in the Club House at Vasa Park. The ladies have been instructed to take things easy after lunch that day as Eric Engvall and Harold Markstrom are taking over the cooking of supper. I suspect their wives will be very busy. A Ham Supper will be on order for you at 5:00 p.m., one dollar per plate for adults, and fifty cents for children twelve and under. After the meeting, a dance and refreshments with the Engvalls and Markstroms as hosts. Music by the Travellers.

### VASA GLIMPSES

Milda Backstrom has been in Montreal visiting her son Alvin. She was also in Sarnia visiting her daughter Eleanor Thomson, and took a trip with the family to Niagara Falls. Eleanor and Jerry have moved back to this district now, and are living in Fort Saskatchewan.

Lennard and Mat Eliasson and family, have been visiting Lennard's parents Mons and Margaret Eliasson in Vernon, B.C.

Bill and May Rushton have also been holidaying in British Columbia.

Ray and Doreen Nyroos with Kristina and Trevor spent their holidays at Vasa Park.

Congratulations to Elwood Johnson who was admitted to the Bar on June 28. Elwood is the son of Gust and Helga Johnson, and will be joining the law firm of Belzil and Swist.



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## SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

• • •

Members of Solglyt Lodge were out in great numbers at the 34th bi-annual convention held in Great Falls, Montana on June 13th, 14th and 15th.

Delegates attending the convention were: Sigurd Sorenson, Ellsworth Halberg, Joe Lineham, Peter Hansen, Stan Hafso and Harv Haugen.

The members of the ladies drill team: Selma Sorenson, Betty McKeitt, Mary Rikstad, Gladys Clark, Betty Travis, Olga McBride, Lois Venoasen, Lorna Ferrel, Hilda Ritland, Evelyn Oyen, Bertha Nohr and Clara Lineham. The drill team assisted with the initiation and put on a display of precision drilling, as well as performing in the shoppers mall in their Klondike Costumes.

We must not forget our fourth district president, Knut Svidal, and his wife, who was director of the delightful entertainment rendered by their three boys during Friday's luncheon.

Others attending were Irene Laggren, Clarence Rikstad, Emeth Clark and Larry Ritland, also, Ed and Lillian Ness, who now reside in Calgary.

Solglyt won first prize, a nice guest book, for their lodge calendar.

Knut Svidal was elected as representative to the supreme lodge convention at Minneapolis in August.

Harv Haugen was elected as social director for the fourth district.

On Friday all our members were dressed in Klondike costumes, so Klondike Days was well publicized when Edmontonians paraded through downtown Great Falls.

Lodsen Lodge presented the Solglyt drill team with a lovely copper plate. J. Lineham, president of Solglyt Lodge, presented S. Peterson, newly elected president of the fourth district, with a Klondike lighter from the city of Edmonton.

A combined senior and junior lodge picnic was held at Victoria Park on June 22nd. While Mrs. Sivertson brewed the coffee, others were busy on a treasure hunt put out by Joe and Clara Lineham. By

## SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

cont'd.

the time the treasure was found everyone was ready for the pot luck supper and wiener roast. Our good friend, Kalmar Amdam, came along with the ice-cream and pop. Then, Stan Hafso, our social director, started the races, followed by two ball games and a peanut scramble.

Orla Tychsen hosted a lovely shower for Anita Searle who is about to embark on the sea of matrimony.

Sons of Norway members who just returned from Norway are Mr. and Mrs. Bukvi, Mr. and Mrs. Reno, and Mrs. Venoasen. Accompanying Renos was their daughter, Edna Marshall and their granddaughter, Mary; accompanying Mrs. Venoasen was her son, Oscar, and his family. All reported fine weather and a wonderful time. Renos visited some former Edmontonians, Svein and Ruth Brovold, who now reside at Stenkjer. Mrs. Sivertson and Mrs. Macdonald are leaving on the next flight, June 19th. They say that Norway will never be the same after they have been there for six weeks. We wish you luck!

Stan Hafson has as his visitor his cousin, Casper Fayling, from Egersund, Norway. He arrived on June 14th and will be leaving on July 20th. They visited Banff and Jasper over the long weekend. Casper said, "This looks like Norway!"

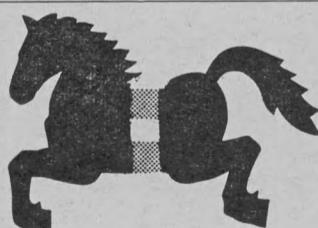
Elsworth and Lois Halberg, and family, had a nice holiday in Banff and Jasper over the long weekend, while Del Melsness and family visited in North Battleford.

Wally Broen took a flying trip in his own plane — yes, built with his own two hands — to Whitehorse to visit his brother.

Congratulations go to Sonja McBride as runner-up in the Queen contest held at the Scandinavian Centre picnic at Vasa Park.

Some of our "Dancers of the Midnight Sun" were there to add color to the entertainment. These are: Patricia McBride, Sonja McBride, Rita Cwalina, Margaret Campbell, Brenda Bruce, Warren Clark, David Oyen, Howard McNaughton, Dave Amundsen. Warren Clark also entertained with his accordion.

A makeshift ball team was hurriedly assembled. They got beat, of course, but thanks for a good try and for being such good sports.



The Horse symbol of Scandinavian Design Cavalcade.

## PHONE RATES CUT

MONTREAL — A reduction in long distance rates across Canada was announced May 27 by the Bell Telephone Company and the Trans-Canada Telephone System.

The new rates, which go into effect in September, apply only to direct distance dialing between midnight and 6 a.m. For example, the rate for three minutes between Vancouver and Winnipeg will be \$1.

## YWCA EMPHASIZES ROLE OF HOMEMAKER

"Two-thirds of Canadian women are not working outside the home and in any enquiry this majority group of Canadian women can not be ignored," stated Mrs. David Stager during the presentation to the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada by the YWCA of Canada.

Other priorities cited in the YWCA Brief, which represents views of 75,000 members across Canada, were the awareness that both men and women's roles in our society today are changing; concerns for the housing of young women; the needs of the Indian, Metis and Eskimo girls; amendments to the Canadian Income Tax Act allowing deduction for employed women who must provide care for children, aged, or other dependents; family planning and family life education.

Mrs. Stager emphasized that "Several choices must be available for women desiring different roles in life and that society must make certain that there is a real choice for a woman to stay at home or go to work. The YWCA sees the roles of homemaker and mother as important ones and believes that the consistent presence of a mother in the home has a very real relationship to raising emotionally healthy, morally responsible children."

"Only one-third of Canada's adult women are working in some job other than housework. Of the other two-thirds a large number are engaged in voluntary work which directly contributes much to society."

In her statements on housing for young women, Mrs. Stager said,

"There is an urgent need for housing, studying the results of the Durden research project on serious problems of women and girls (this report outlines the need for suitable living accommodation not only for the 'average' young girl away from home for the first time, but also for those with histories of emotional disturbances, mental illness and other personal problems). She said, "There is also a need for temporary accommodation for transient women. The YWCA is very active in this field, presently operating 33 residences across Canada."

The problems faced by the Indian, Metis and Eskimo girls who move out of their own culture into city life is very obvious to the YWCA. Our Association feels that in all work with this group of women it is important that they be involved in shaping their own destiny in a manner that creates mutual and self-respect. A young Indian woman is on the National YWCA staff assigned specifically to work on this problem."

Mrs. Stager concluded her presentation with, "We recommend that more child care services be developed, and that more homemakers and household workers be trained." She said, "The YWCA is presently putting great emphasis on family life education in its programs."

A man bought a parrot and in trying to make him talk he kept repeating, "Hello! Hello!"

Finally, the parrot opened one sleepy eye and asked, "What's the matter? Line busy?"

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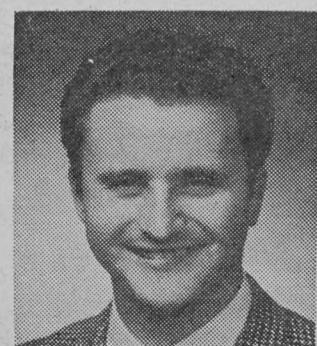
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**ORGANIZER:** Mrs. Vera Nielson, 10029 - 85 Ave. Edmonton, Alberta.

Phone: 439-0506

**FLIGHT NO. 28** Edmonton to Stockholm, Sweden. 30 Days

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**ORGANIZER:** Mr. Paul Karvonen, 12204 Dovercourt Crescent, Edmonton, Alberta.

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All above fares include Airport Taxes and Insurance. Children under the age of two on the date of departure, will be carried free, if reported. (Limit 9).

Members of the Scandinavian Centre of not less than six months standing by date of departure and immediate relatives - husband, wife, parents and dependent children living under the same roof - are eligible.

A deposit of \$100.00 per person must accompany each application. Cheques are to be made payable to the Scandinavian Charter Flight number.

Application with cheque must be delivered or mailed to the organizer in charge. The balance of the fare is payable two months prior to departure date. **Please add exchange to all cheques from out of town.**

Deposit will be refunded if flight is cancelled. A passenger may cancel his or her flight if notice is served at least 30 days prior to departure date.

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I am a member in good standing of the Scandinavian Centre Co-operative Association Ltd. Yes  No

Date: ..... Signature: .....

## BUFORD NEWS

Avis Pearson had the good luck to win \$50.00 at a Bingo held in Wetaskiwin one Saturday.

Recent visitors at the home of Goody and Vernon Pearson were Goody's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bergo, and her brother, John of Ardmore, Alta. Also, her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Rudd, of Viceroy, Sask.

Congratulations to Tillie Erickson and Vernon Pearson who won first prize for their costumes at the Hard-time Dance held at Willow Creek in June.

Tony and Pat Lefsrud attended the 25th wedding anniversary celebrations of Tony's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lefsrud in Viking.

Cheryl and Mike Hanear motored to Dawson Creek where they visited Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Zelent.

Mr. and Mrs. Bertil Pearson spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. C. K. French at Hanna. While there they enjoyed a trip through the Drumheller Badlands.

Recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Wold have been Mr. and Mrs. L. Swanlund and daughters of Edmonton, Mr. and Mrs. Don Gillies of Breton and Mrs. Ken Jamieson of Dauphin, Manitoba.

Albin and Wanda Markstedt attended the Annual Bus Driver's Banquet and Dance which this year was held in Breton's Community Centre.

On June 28 Avis and Clair Pearson attended the graduation exercises at the Olds School of Agriculture where their son Glen was one of the graduates.

We are glad to see Alf Hoyem at home and feeling fine after having undergone surgery in the Royal Alex Hospital, Edmonton.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Nacuk and family took in the Ponoka Stampede.

Doris and George Modin spent a holiday in Kulm, North Dakota, visiting Doris' relations.

Glenys and Eugene Wronko spent a holiday in Montana, Glacier National Park, returning home via Banff. It was enjoyable but just too hot they reported.

Percy and Gladys Sandstrom spent a short holiday at Salmon Arm and Prince George, B.C.

Bill and Edna Pederson visited their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Don Weiting in Santa Maria, California.

Our Vasa members, who have attended the several week-end Scandia Lodge "Dos" at Vasa Park, say many thanks for the well planned and most entertaining programs which they enjoyed immensely.

Ronald and Georgie Erickson and sons of Vernon, B.C. spent the July 1st week-end at the home of Ronald's parents, Frankie and Gerda Erickson.

Karen Pearson has joined the staff of the University Hospital where she is working in the diet kitchen.

It is nice to see Mrs. Grace Babik at home and feeling better after having been hospitalized.

Mr. Melvin Gellert is working for a construction company near Cold Lake for the summer months.

Violet and Eddie Nystrom have moved to Castor, Alta., where Eddie is working for an oil company.

Lloyd and Angela Pearson entertained at a barbecue supper for Mr. and Mrs. Krause (Angela's sister, Shirley) of Edgerton and for a visitor from Holland, Mrs. Tillie Termeulin.

Visitors from Falun, Sweden at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rylander are Mr. and Mrs. Sven Skoog (Henry's aunt), their daughter Mrs. Karen Sundberg and little Agnetta Sundberg. On Sunday July 7th Mr. Skoog celebrated his 60th birthday and a party was held at the Rylanders to mark the occasion.

Also visiting from Sweden at the homes of Andrew Beck, and Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Wurbun are Andrew's brother, Eric, of Hagersten and his nephew, Sigvard Olson of Djuras, Sweden.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Eklund motored to Armenta to attend the funeral of Arnold's cousin, Mr. Einer Broen of Hay Lakes.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Carson and family of Sherwood Park, Edmonton, spent a few days with Mrs. Carson's parents, Anthon and Bertha Falk, before they left for Fort Nelson where they will be making their new home.

Mavis and Fred Hamilton had Mavis' dad Melvin Anderson of Edmonton and her sister Jeanine (the Murray Sparrow family) of Camrose spend a few days with them.

One Sunday the Raymond Erickson attended an Erickson family reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Erickson in Edmonton. It was a special occasion saying goodbye and wishing Douglas Erickson (Raymond's nephew) and his family well. They were leaving Edmonton to make their home in Eastern Canada.

Tillie Erickson was sorry to learn that her Uncle, Magnus Elvik of Bergen, Norway, had passed away on July 3rd.

A Sydney, B.C. visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Algot Pearson was Hildur's cousin, Mrs. Jenny Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Fransen of Sudbury, Ontario were guests of Irma Anderson. Irma, her boys and guests visited Banff and other mountain resorts for a few days.

Mrs. Annie Evanson and Mr. and Mrs. Clare Evanson had Annie's daughter and Clare's sister, Mrs. Vivian Petrarca of Rhode Island and Annie's grandson Marvin Westlund, his wife, Shirley and two daughters of Winnipeg as most welcome guests.

Our Lodge's annual wiener roast, social and dance, held at the Willow Creek Community Centre on July 12th, had a dandy turnout. We of togetherness.

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were more than pleased to have so many brothers and sisters from the Scandia and Falun Lodges present. It was especially nice to welcome Mr. and Mrs. John Holmlund's and Andrew Beck's visitors from Sweden and they could see how we Alberta Vasa Lodges visit each other and get together to celebrate special occasions.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Clare Evanson who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on July 14. They had their reception and dance on July 13 at the Willow Creek Community Centre. Alice and Clare, your Buford Lodge brothers and sisters wish to congratulate you both on this most memorable occasion and wish you many more years

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## DANIA DOINGS



Monday, August the 19th at 8:00 p.m. is the next meeting for the Ladies of "Bikuben" we hope to see as many as possible, we know of course, that some of you will be on holiday, but the rest of you, please come to 10029 - 85 Ave.

We like to welcome all the visitors from the Scandinavian Countries that are here to visit relatives and friends, and we hope you will all take a trip out to see our beautiful Scandinavian Centre sometime during your stay here in Edmonton.

This year we will try to have a picnic with "Shooting" of a different kind, as we cannot find a place suitable for our "Fugleskydning" as we used to have years back. This will be Sunday, August the 18th starting at 2:00 p.m. There will be trophies for "Lerdue Skydning" Target Skydning and Bow and Arrow for men and ladies high. For the children there will be all kinds of races, games, fishpond, etc. and as an extra attraction there will be a display of tropical animals from South America, Florida and Mexico. At 6:00 p.m. there will be two short films shown of wild life, "The Beaverdam" and "Ducks of Course."

All this will be held at the Little Acres, situated 2½ miles north and ¼ mile west of the Winterburn Store on Highway 16 west. Look for the sign.

Bring your own lunch or supper and make it a real family picnic. If you like to barbecue, then there are lots of barbecue there, just bring what you need for it. In case of bad weather all activities will be inside. NO CANCELLATION this time. Admission 50c per adult - children free.

## NEWS FROM THE DANISH CHURCH

## Danish Summer Meeting.

Saturday August the 24th there will be arranged a big Danish Summer-meeting at the end of the summer-camp for children, sponsored by groups from the Danish congregations in Edmonton and Calgary.

The place for the summer-camp and the folks-meeting is Sylvan Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, west of Red Deer. Drive 10 miles west of Sylvan Lake town on Hwy. 11. At sign "Lutheran Bible Camp" turn north 2 miles to another sign, turn here at right. The folks-meeting will begin at 2 p.m. and there will be served coffee, songs, sport and much more. In the evening there will be camp-fire where the children will show some scenes from Denmark's oldest history. Bring your own evening meal.

Come and bring other Danish people.

"I have come because of your advertisement for a man to retail canaries."

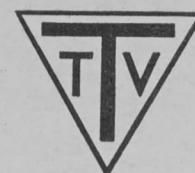
"Oh, do want the job?"

"Well, no. But I'm curious - how do the canaries lose their tails?"

A divorcee confided to a friend that she ran an ad in the local paper for a husband. 'My gosh!' said her friend, "Did you get any replies?"

"Hundreds of them," she replied, "but they all said the same thing

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Sunday August 11th. 8:00 p.m. Danish with Holy Communion by Staal Nielsen

Sunday August 18th. 8:00 p.m. English by Ove Pedersen, Armena

Sunday August 25th. 10:00 a.m. Danish by Staal Nielsen

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